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remedy lies in the establishment of Land Courts for the judicial fixing of rents. But the real reform which the author advocates consists in the gradual acquisition of land by the state at fair prices.

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*The Old Fashioned Woman.* By ELSIE CLEWS PARSONS. New York: Putnam, 1913. 8vo, pp. vii+373. \$1.50 net.

The author seeks in this book to trace and define the links that bind present-day customs and habits of thought in regard to women with primitive customs and habits of thought.

It may startle the modern woman and her champions and her opponents to discover how like she is to the old-fashioned woman in much that marks her position in society, and to realize that many of our most deeply ingrained traditions as well as our most seemingly artificial conventionalities are but survivals of primitive notions which, modified in one way or another, have come down through the centuries. The instinctively apologetic attitude toward girl babies, the exaggerated prominence of the young girl as she approaches marriageable age, the importance of the mother, but the necessity of repressing her that she may feminize neither men nor society, the more exacting standards for women than for men in all the properties of life, woman's subordination to man in family, religious, social, political, and industrial relations, all these social attitudes and customs may be illustrated from both early and modern life. The examples and comparisons in the book, drawn from every age and every land, show the widest of ethnological study, and form a real contribution to one phase of our knowledge of social origins.

The author may indeed be "forgiven for adding to the already disproportionate bibliography on woman," especially as she dares occasionally to lift the veil of solemnity with which most writers feel it necessary to enshroud the subject. It is to be doubted, however, if even "this ethnological inkling of themselves" will serve to alter the views of either feminist or anti-feminist or to reconcile their differences. The one will emphasize the folly of habits of thought bred in ancient days; the other will feel that age-long and apparently instinctive practice dignifies his creed.

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*The Origin of Property.* By JAN ST. LEWIŃSKI. London: Constable & Co., Ltd., 1913. 8vo, pp. xi+71. 3s. 6d. net.

Within the compass of this little book Mr. Lewiński draws together the results of some very significant investigations into the origin of private property. No pretense is made at fulness of detail. However, the copious footnotes indicate to the reader the wealth of literature dealing with the development of the forms of land holding. The references include such standard works as Sir Henry Maine's *Village Communities in the East and West*, Baden-Powell's *Land Tenure in India*, E. de Laveleye's *De la propriété et ses formes*

*primitives*, and, among studies in the German language, Dr. Victor Utz's *Die Besitzverhältnisse der Tartarenbauern im Kreise Simferopol*, Maurer's *Einleitung zur Geschichte der Mark-, Hof-, Dorf-, Stadtverfassung*, Tschuprow's *Die Feldgemeinschaft*, and Simkhovitch's *Die Feldgemeinschaft in Russland*. The latest distinct advances, however, in the knowledge of this subject are to be found in the untranslated studies of Russian village communities by such Russian authors as Kachorowski, Shvetzow, Shcherbina, Segal, Pawlow-Silwanskij Grodekow, Bolshakow, Harusin, Dubienskij, Efimenko, Lichkow, Krol Rumianzew, and Kaufman. Mr. Kaufman's work entitled *Ruskaia Obshchina* (The Russian Village Community) is considered of unusual merit by Mr. Lewiński.

A review of the data gathered in these intensive studies of the widely scattered survivals of a primitive stage of life leads the author to the conclusion that the whole evolution of private property is traceable to four basic principles of universal application and that special racial differences have been without significance.

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*The Ultimate Solution of the American Negro Problem.* By EDWARD EGGLESTON. Boston: Richard G. Badger, 1913. 8vo, pp. 285. \$1.50 net.

The solution of the American negro problem still puzzles the American nation. Theories like "the extermination of the weak by the strong," "wholesale deportation through the government," "segregation like the Amerind," etc., have been found wanting, and now comes Mr. Eggleston's optimistic assurance of the ultimate solution.

The first six chapters of this book aim to explain the negro's origin and descent, and the quality of his mind and character. The remaining fourteen chapters deal with negro slavery in America, negro criminality, negro education, and the natural solution of the problem. The author, with optimistic assurance, builds his whole argument around the mental inferiority of the negro race. He points out the negro's tendency to commit crime, and presents statistics showing a decline of 7.7 per cent in population since 1890. He firmly believes that disease, incapacity, and white competition will ultimately eliminate the black race, and that no amount of white intervention in the negroes' behalf will be effectual.

The book is written in simple and dispassionate style for popular reading. It presents nothing really new and its calm assumption of the ultimate natural solution may well be doubted. Withal, it is worth reading by those who look to other ways of solving the problem.

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*Social Work in Hospitals.* By IDA M. CANNON. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1913. 12mo, pp. xii+260. \$1.50.

The Russell Sage Foundation is putting out this description of a new form of social service by one of the pioneers in the movement. The work was begun